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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION BRIEF

# PROBABLE SSM LAUNCH AREA NEAR MAKAT, USSR



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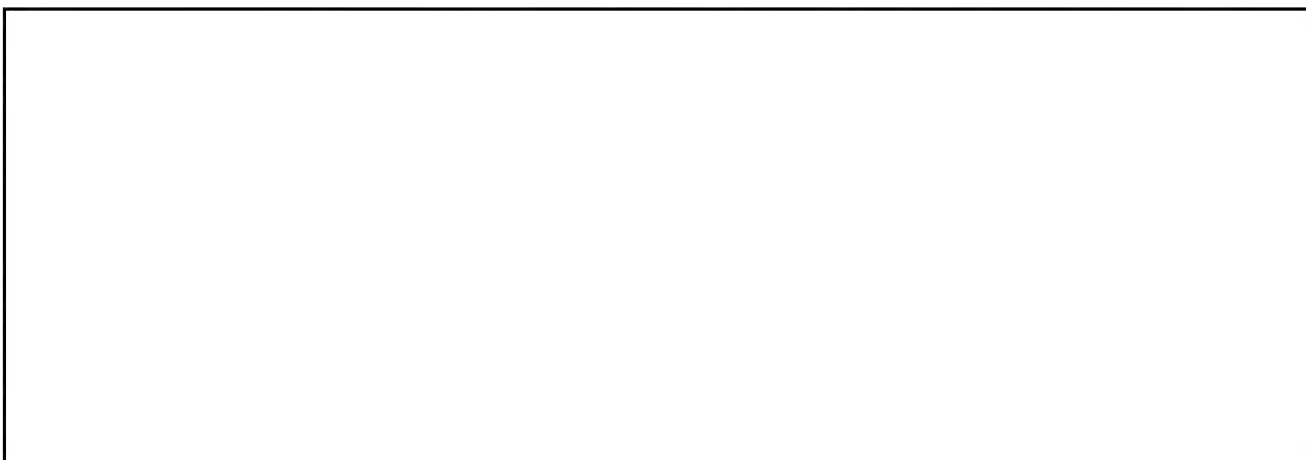


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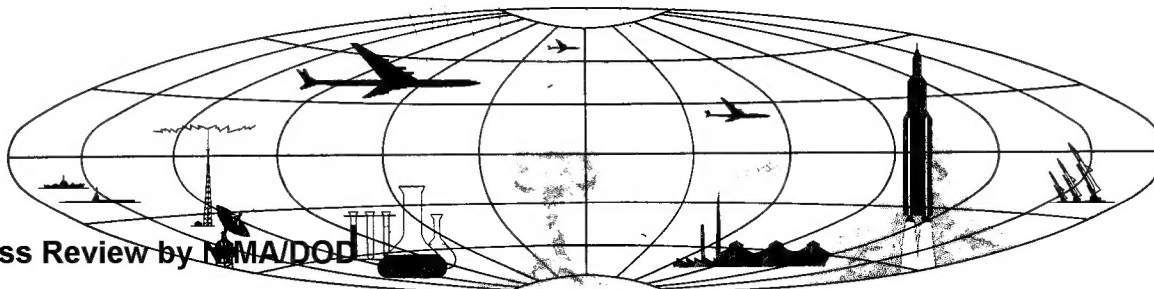


CIA

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NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER



Declass Review by NSA/DOD

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## PROBABLE SSM LAUNCH AREA NEAR MAKAT, USSR

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Photography of [ ] reveals a probable surface-to-surface missile (SSM) launch site, located at 48-02N 53-41E, 27 nautical miles (nm) northeast of Makat, USSR. The photography also allows further observations of previously reported suspect areas and a search for electronic facilities associated with the Kapustin Yar Missile Test Range. (Figure 1) 1/

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Description of the Probable Launch Area

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The probable SSM launch site consists of a probable launch point and two possible bunkers or revetments which are located 330 and 390 feet from the point (Figure 2). The site is served by a road from the FLIM FLAM station, 6.7 nm to the southeast. The support facilities of the FLIM FLAM station and the nearby airfield probably support the site. Increased activity and enlargement of the site [ ] are observed.

The launch point is at a distance of 6,500 feet on an azimuth of 090 degrees from the probable guidance facility. The facility appears to be in a fenced rectangular area within a circular clearing. Two scars, apparently roads, connect the facility with the probable launch site.

Two unidentified areas also appear related to the probable launch site. A scarred area is located 3,500 feet north of the site and is served by a net of roads from the site. Another area, which is surrounded by a firebreak, is located 1.3 nm east-southeast of the launch area and is adjacent to the principal road.

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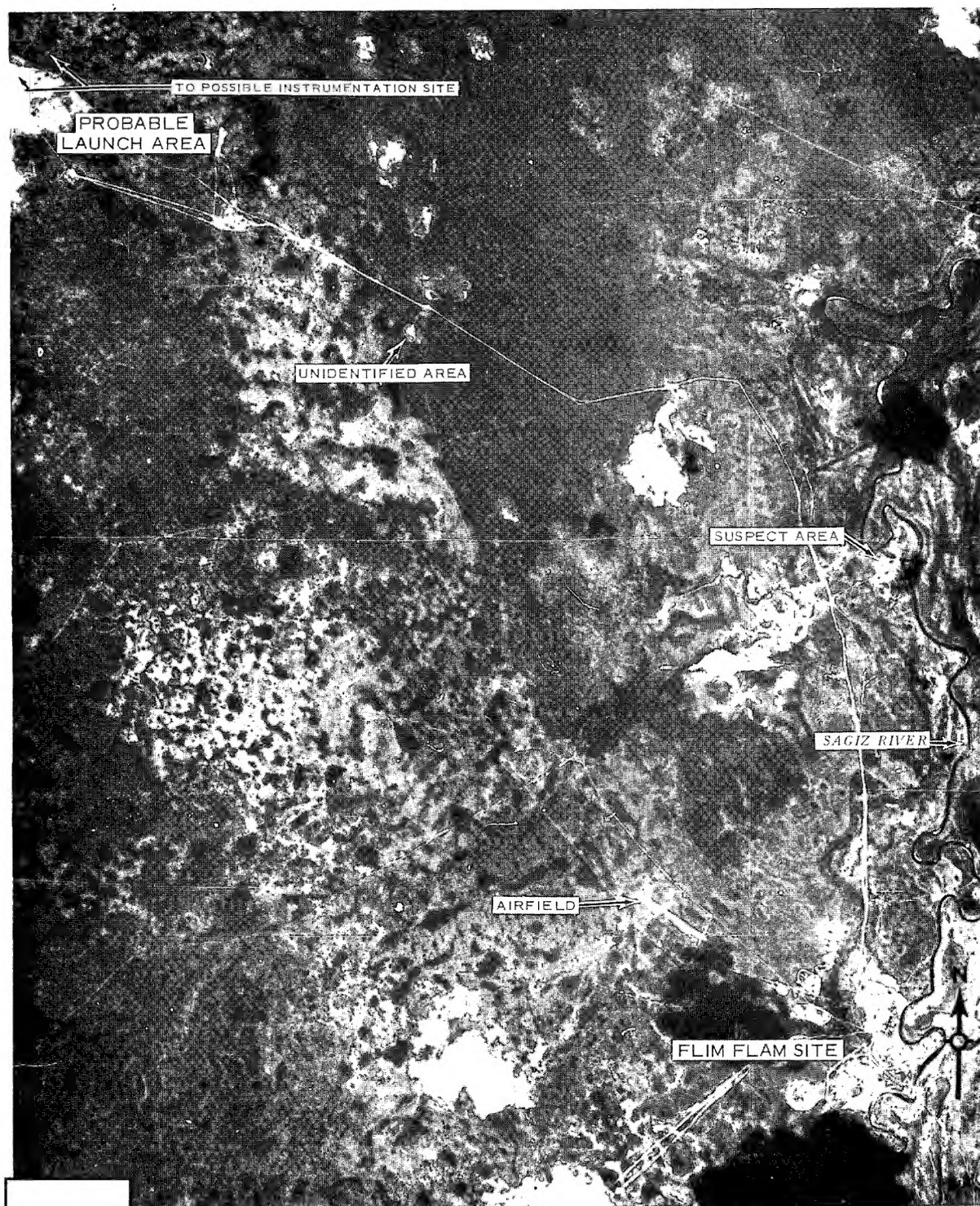


FIGURE 1. AREA OF PROBABLE SSM LAUNCH SITE NEAR MAKAT, USSR.

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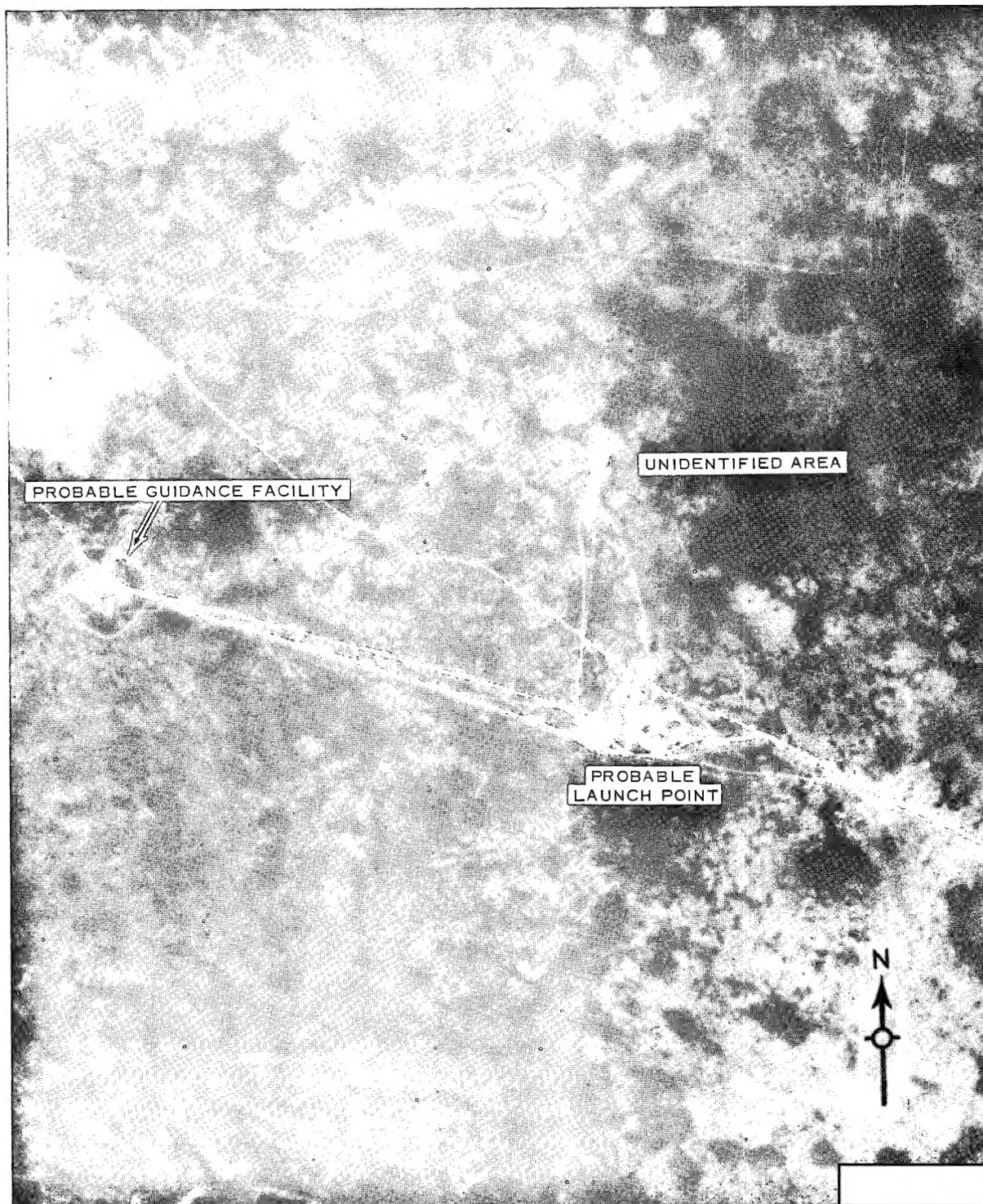


FIGURE 2. DETAIL OF PROBABLE LAUNCH AREA.

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Electronic Facilities

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The FLIM FLAM station (47-55N 53-47E) appears basically unchanged since the photography [ ] 3/ The exact pattern of the interferometer could not be determined for mensuration purposes. The ground scar of the interferometer's circular perimeter measures 1,050 feet in diameter.

A possible electronic instrumentation site (48-06N 53-31E) is located 8 nm northwest of the probable launch site. The two sites are connected by a road and a ground scar. Some scarring is evident in the area, but only minor track activity is observed. The possible instrumentation site may be related to the 300-mile impact area of the Kapustin Yar Missile Test Range, which [ ] locates approximately 12 nm to the northeast.

Suspect Areas

Three areas of unidentified activity, which were previously described as suspect, 1/ were again observed, but no missile activity is noted. The areas were previously suspected as sites of a field missile launch point and of a support area for such a site.

Extensive activity is apparent in Suspect Area 1 (47-57N 53-05E), 15 to 20 nm north-northwest of Makat, but its purpose again cannot be determined. Somewhat similar patterns of scarring and track activity are observed at several other locations in the general area of Makat. The suspect area is 50-percent cloud covered.

Suspect Area 2 (47-44N 53-58E), south of the village of Kimbay and 28 nm east of Makat, does not appear to be related to any missile launch or electronic function. The road serving four groups of unidentified objects indicates only minor track activity. The village is obscured by clouds.

Suspect Area 3 does not contain any facilities which could be utilized

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for missile launching. Two unidentified objects located on the bank of the Sagiz River, 2.8 nm north of the FLIM FLAM station, are again visible. They are served by a branch of the road which connects the FLIM FLAM station and the probable launch site. The reported possible airstrip in the area does not appear to be serviceable for aircraft.

## REFERENCES

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## CHARTS

ACIC. USAF Pilotage Chart, Sheet 247A, 1st ed, Dec 56, scale 1:500,000 (U)

ACIC. USAF Pilotage Chart, Sheet 236D, 1st ed, Jun 57, scale 1:500,000 (U)

## DOCUMENTS

1. CIA. PIC/JR-4/61, Missile-Related Activity, Makat Area, USSR, May 61 (TS [redacted])
2. NSA [redacted] 109-61, Possible Initiation of Antimissile Firings Against IRBM Target Missiles, 2 and 4 Mar 61, 10 Mar 61 (TS [redacted])
- NSA [redacted] DO1 Group of the SSATC Redesignated as the DO3 Group, 31 Mar 61 (TS [redacted])
- NSA [redacted] Possible Antimissile Firing Conducted by the DO3 Group on the SSATC, 24 Jun 61, 27 Jun 61 (TS [redacted])

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NSA [ ] Possible Antimissile Firing Conducted  
by the DO3 Group on the SSATC, 30 Jun 61, 5 Jul 61 (TS [ ]

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3. CIA. PIC/JB-128/60, FLIM FLAM Station Near Makat, USSR,  
22 Dec 60 (TS [ ]

REQUIREMENT

OSI/R-80/61 (TS [ ]

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